

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

SWITCHING DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PARALLEL CONNECTION OF SUBSCRIBER TERMINAL DEVICES

| Case No. P00,0458 (check one) | Application Seria | | |
|---|---|---|-----------|
| | t I have reviewed and undenended by any amendment | erstand the contents of the above identified specification, referred to above. | |
| | | nited States Patent Office all information which is known to ion in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation | |
| before my or our invention our invention thereof or m in the United States of An not been patented or made country foreign to the Unit assigns more than twelve certificate on this invention application by me or my least or the United States of An not been patented or made country foreign to the United States of An not been patented or made country foreign to the United States of An not been patented or made country for inventor or my least or my | a thereof, or patented or de nore than one year prior to nerica more than one year p to the subject of an inventor ted States of America on a months prior to this applican has been filed in any countered representatives or assi- reign priority benefits under | tion was ever known or used in the United States of America scribed in any printed publication in any country before my this application, that the same was not in public use or on sa prior to this application, and I believe that the invention has 's certificate issued before the date of this application in any n application filed by me or my legal representatives or ation, and that no application for patent or inventor's antry foreign to the United States of America prior to this gns, except as identified below: | or ale |
| application(s) for patent o Prior Foreign Ap | r inventor's certificate liste plication(s) | d below | |
| Number | Country | Date | |
| 19911713.6 | Germany | March 16, 1999 | |
| | sted application on which p | on for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date priority is claimed: Date | |

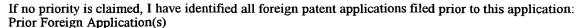
^{1 (}b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

⁽¹⁾ It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

⁽ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of



Number

Country

Date

And I hereby appoint Messrs. John D. Simpson (Registration No. 19,842), Dennis A. Gross (24,410), Robert M. Barrett, (30,142), Steven H. Noll (28,982), Kevin W. Guynn (29,927), Robert M. Ward (26,517), Brett A. Valiquet (27,841), Edward A. Lehman (22,312), David R. Metzger (32,919), Todd S. Parkhurst (26,494), James D. Hobart (24,149), Melvin A. Robinson (31,870), Joseph P. Reagen (35,332), Michael R. Hull (35,902), Michael S. Leonard (37,557), William E. Vaughan (39,056) and Lewis T. Steadman (17,074), all members of the firm of Hill & Simpson, A Professional Corporation

Telephone: 312/876-0200 Ext. 3491

my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and direct that all correspondence be forwarded to:

Hill & Simpson A Professional Corporation 85th Floor Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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